

OCTOBER 2010 PASTORAL COUNCIL MINUTES

(10/13/2010, 6:10-7:20 PM, C+CC Lounge)

<u>Present:</u>	Brenda Williams (Chair), Fr. Edward Kacerguis (Pastor), Matt Callaghan, Wilson Crone, David Dziejewski, Fran Hyde, Nicholas Wengrenovich
<u>Excused</u>	Jacqueline Fable, Paul Kraus, Phillip Maas

Mr. Wengrenovich opened the meeting with prayer.

Chair Report (B. Williams):

- Roll call and correction of roster.
- Minutes from the September meeting approved.
- Reconfirmation of schedule for 2010-2011, noting the exceptions to the times/dates posted on the C + CC web site: 12/8: Holy Day [Council meeting at 7 pm following Mass], March and April dates both fall during the Lenten Wednesday series, so should meet following the speaker, and there will be a meeting in May [5-11-2010].
- Still has not been able to touch base with Sr. Clarisse Correia with respect to retreat, still hoping for late fall, e.g., a Saturday or evening, to schedule a parish retreat.

Pastor's Report (Fr. Kacerguis):

- We continue to receive positive feedback on picnic, e.g., from new student families.
- Anne Tory has taken hold of C+CC program as interim director, with new ideas being incorporated for future planning.
- 10/16/10: Alumni Weekend
- 10/23/10: Parent's Weekend, with Saturday wine and cheese sponsored by the Knights of Columbus, and Sunday Coffee Hour and pie sales sponsored by the Rensselaer Newman Fellowship.
- Shoes collected by the Parish were sent out by fourth class mail, so word of their delivery delayed. The parish will aim for a repeat in the fall of 2011 (news out 9/1/2011 for October 2011 collection).
- Cards for Cardinal Newman beatification successfully distributed to every parish in the Diocese, where they were well received. The Newman prayers and biography cards will be a continual part of program at the Chapel from now on.
- Lenten Wednesdays: getting speakers lined up, to be solidified by next month.
- 10/29/10: Rensselaer Newman Foundation meeting, with Committee of 100 dinner that night.
- All Saint's Day this year, not a day of obligation, but there will be a special liturgy on 5:15 Mass.
- 11/2: Holy Hour, 7:30-8:30 PM, to be sponsored by the Knights of Columbus on All Soul's Day, with Jim Frey to include a special musical component.
- St. Nicholas to be here again this year at 10:30 on 12/5.

The parish-wide survey done during the Masses of 9/25 and 9/26 were analyzed by the Council.

Highlights of the findings include the following:

- 226 separate respondents filled out survey forms
- 10:30 am and 5:00 pm are the most heavily attended Masses
- 39% of respondents have attended daily Mass
- 10% of respondents participate in GIFT (Generations in Faith Together), the Faith Formation program of the parish
- 60% of respondents were students, and a third of those students were new to the parish
- Of student respondents, 91% were aware of the Newman Fellowship, and 83% of the Knights of Columbus

- 57% of respondents have invited nonmembers to parish events
- Over 95% of those respondents who have participated in Lenten Wednesdays or Coffee Hours are positive to very positive about their experiences
- Over 200 additional comments ranging from facilities to other possible activities covered a wide range of viewpoints, with no trends distinctly new to the parish identified

Knights of Columbus Report (D. Dziewulski):

- Interest in having members join and obtain their degrees, e.g., the first degree, as quickly as possible.
- John Rosbozom (Financial Secretary) will be up for his awarding of the fourth degree at the Cohoes Council Hall. Having other council members seeing this process can give them some insight to the third and fourth degrees.
- Mr. Dziewulski would like to see third degree candidates emerge from the RPI student members of the council. This can be a fairly complicated process, where candidates college-aged and older often work on it during the summer.
- As part of the ceremony, this would involve a celebratory meal. Generally speaking such an event, with 15/20 candidates, including another 20 or so as family/spouse, along with the local council core, involves close to fifty people.
- In terms of a possible date, the C+CC fall 2010 calendar is full, such that the Knights are looking ahead to fall 2011.
- Plans are ongoing to display the charter.
- Merton speaker on 10/5/10 had full house (72 in attendance) in the C+CC Lounge, with a reasonable discussion of the complexities of his life and writings.
- Recruitment of 8-10 new names at Activities Fair and Welcome Picnic combined.

Newman Fellowship Report (Nick):

- Fall retreat was successful.
- Volunteers went to Emmaus House for the first time this fall.
- The number of participants and level of involvement in the Prayer Group is consistent.
- Apple picking 10/16/10 with bake sale 10/23/10 during Family weekend.
- Two other service projects are anticipated for this fall:
 - 10/27/10: Little Sisters of the Poor for Bingo
 - 11/6/10: St. John's outreach center with a meal (food bank requires 25 people, whereas 12 people for meal).
- Whole parish for local (Troy) food bank could be invited as part of student/rest of parish interaction, to reach the 20-25 mark.

Parish Life (NR):

The meeting concluded with prayer by Mr. Wegrenowich.

Submitted By: Wilson Crone